

DHS Component Actions
Hurricane IRMA – Atlantic Ocean
0600 ET 7 Sep 2017

Updates in Bold and Blue

Overview

IRMA remains a Category 5 Hurricane with the eye located 140 miles north-northwest of San Juan, PR, moving west-northwest at 16 mph. The core of Irma passed north of Puerto Rico and is expected to be near the Bahamas this evening. IRMA is forecast to remain a powerful Category 4 or 5 hurricane for the next couple days. The threat of direct hurricane impacts in Florida over the weekend and early next week has increased. Hurricane Watches may be issued for portions of the Florida Keys and Florida Peninsula later today.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

- *FEMA Headquarters:*
 - NRCC Level I (for Harvey & IRMA)
 - Recovery:
 - Working with the FEMA HQ Crisis Action Planning team to identify call center staffing needs and how to address them; exploring training and contracting as avenues for surging call center capacity to address gaps
 - Four Disaster Survivor Assistance (DSA) Task Forces established, to include 15 FEMA Corps teams supporting DSA and Disaster Recovery Center operations.
- *FEMA Region I:*
 - Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC): Level III (day shift only)
 - Region I Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT): Released from VT and currently at RRCC, preparing to deploy depending on IRMA's track.
- *FEMA Region II:*
 - RRCC: Level II (24/7 staffing, with full ESF support during the day and partial at night)
 - FEMA Region II IMAT locations:
 - IMAT-A: St. Croix, USVI
 - IMAT-B: 1/3 force in St. Thomas, USVI; 2/3 force in PR ready to deploy to USVI as needed
 - IMAT-C: PR
 - Region X IMAT: PR
 - Staff from the FEMA Caribbean Area Division in PR to provide support to Commonwealth and local officials
 - US Virgin Islands (USVI):
 - **USVI requested an expedited major Disaster Declaration on 6 Sep**
 - Emergency Operations Center (EOC): Level II, full activation
 - Governor implemented a curfew at 0600 ET on 6 Sep for 36 hours

- State of Emergency declared; National Guard activated
- Puerto Rico (PR):
 - EOC: Level IV, full activation
 - State of Emergency declared; National Guard Activated
 - PR Aqueducts and Sewer Authority identified facilities with 24 backup generators for potable water pump stations and sanitary systems that could be employed during response operations
- *FEMA Region III:*
 - **RRCC: Level I**
 - IMAT deployed to VA EOC
- *FEMA Region IV:*
 - **RRCC: Will transition to Level I (24/7) at 0700 ET**
 - **Region IV IMAT 1 and N-IMAT East two arrived at the FL EOC on 6 Sep; Region IV IMAT-2 enroute to SC EOC**
 - **Region IV Liaison Officers (LNO) on site at FL, SC, and NC EOCs**
 - Commencing joint state, federal and Department of Defense (DoD) Keys Response Working Group to examine FL Keys response options, including air bridge and U.S. Navy amphibious resources.
- Florida:
 - EOC: Level I, full activation
 - State of Emergency declared statewide
 - Seven states currently supporting 15 requests via the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)
 - Seminole Tribe of Florida at Level 2 (Partial Activation)
 - Pre-landfall preparations underway
 - Tribal government and business operations still open
 - Requests for assistance will go directly to FEMA with exception of law enforcement (LE) requests; LE requests will go to the Bureau of Indian Affairs
 - Tribal Council meeting on 7 Sep to discuss declaration options
 - Identification of vulnerable populations underway
 - Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida
 - Pre-landfall preparations underway
 - Tribal government and business operations still open
 - Tribal Council will make decision on declaration options 7 Sep
 - Identification of vulnerable populations is underway
- Georgia EOC: Expects to activate to Level II (Partial Activation)
- South Carolina EOC: Monitoring **Governor declared a statewide state of emergency**
- **North Carolina EOC: Monitoring; Governor declared a statewide state of emergency**
- Tennessee: Level IV (Monitoring)
- *FEMA Region VI:*

- In preparation for potential Hurricane IRMA impacts in LA, Region VI is deploying a Type 3 IMAT to Baton Rouge to establish an Initial Operating Facility (IOF) at the Joint Field Office (JFO)

Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

- All employees accounted for
- CBP employees in the Florida Keys have initiated evacuation.
- Ports have activated hurricane plans: Non-Intrusive Inspection (NII) equipment protection, NII sources relocation, port command centers activation are ongoing.
- Ongoing discussions with port stakeholders for South Florida ports of entry regarding operational status.
- Evacuating employees will be departing both Nassau and Freeport 7 Sep via DOS charter.
- LE operations suspended at Caribbean, Miami, and Jacksonville Air and Marine Branches
- One P-3 deployment from Jacksonville to Panama, scheduled for 6 Sep, was canceled.
- National Marine Center, St. Augustine, FL
 - All PR, South FL, and Key West sites secured as of 1600 ET 6 Sep
 - St Augustine, FL to secure by 1600 ET 8 Sep; 81 vessels secured
 - Vessel maintenance support truck is being prepped for disaster response support.
- Miami Air and Marine Branch repositioned 2 X AS350, 1 X DHC-8, and 1 X UH-60 to New Orleans. 1 X DHC-8 to reposition 7 Sep
- Normal operations continue in USBP Ramey and Miami Sectors
- Additional security guards have been scheduled at all CBP facilities to increase physical security during the storm and in the aftermath of the hurricane.
- Office of Information Technology has staged a Satellite Flyaway Kit for (Network Connectivity / Data Transmission) in Miami and an additional two in Houston ready for deployment and reports no unmet needs.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)

- ICE Crisis Action Team (CAT)
 - In response to approaching Hurricane IRMA, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement has taken the following pre-emptive action:
- ERO
 - There are no detainees in Puerto Rico.
 - Up to 1700 detainees from Miami will be moved in preparation for Hurricane IRMA.
- OPR
 - ICE OPR offices in Puerto Rico and Florida have been provided guidance and information on implementing precautionary procedures in anticipation of Hurricane IRMA.

- The OPR Operational Support Unit continues to monitor the storm and coordinate with the potentially affected offices ensuring accountability and safety of personnel and their families and the status of ICE facilities, sensitive equipment, systems, and operating capabilities.
- HSI
 - The Rapid Response Team in San Juan has set up a command center.

Transportation Security Administration (TSA)

- **Operational Status:**
 - **San Juan (SJU): Ceased passenger screening at 1300 ET 6 Sep. Minimal staff onsite to screen employees and will resume normal operations on 7 Sep.**
 - Saint Thomas (STT): closed
 - St. Croix (STX): closed, Island wide power outage
 - Rafael Hernandez (BQN): closed
 - Mercedita (PSE): closed
 - Airports with significant impact are San Juan (SJU), Saint Thomas (STT), Rafael Hernandez (BQE) and Mercedita (PSE).
 - **Miami (MIA): Mandatory evacuations expected 7 Sep afternoon affecting est. 200 personnel. Expecting high callouts, but will staff to handle rebooked cruise ship passengers. Anticipating flight operations curtailed early afternoon 8 Sep, but most airlines have not committed. Storm rider team will report to work on Friday evening and remain for the duration.**
 - **Fort Lauderdale (FLL): Continuing to monitor storm – may be affected by the expected evacuation orders**
 - **Palm Beach (PBI): Continuing to monitor storm – may be affected by the expected evacuation orders**
 - **Key West (EYW): Normal operations through last departure at 1750 ET on 7 Sep**
 - **TSA Training Center at FLETC**
 - **13 students finish classes 7 Sep and will depart. Training suspended 8-15 Sep. 112 staff remain in the area.**
 - Critical infrastructure impacted; STX has lost power, awaiting more information. Puerto Rico has reported limited power outage.
- Ride out team at SJU for duration of storm – hotel rooms, MREs, water secured for employees
- L3 lent employees to cover equipment
- Office of Information Technology has activated the iPhone hot spot feature for Puerto Rico and USVI, and in the process of activating it for Florida

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

- EVACUATION – Management has issued an order to evacuate for affected employees within Hurricane IRMA mandatory evacuation zones.
- CONUS Locations – Field Operations (FOD)
 - District 9 – Exact Numbers Pending, but report 100 percent accountability

- District 10 – Exact Numbers Pending, but report 100 percent accountability
- PERSONNEL - USCIS is conducting pre-landfall personnel accountability actions.
- OCONUS Locations Field Operations (FOD):
 - Puerto Rico Field Office – 24
 - Virgin Islands – 13
- CONUS Locations – Refugee, Asylum, and International Operations (RAIO).
 - ZMI – Miami Asylum – 117 (13 Detailers & 2 contractors)
- OCONUS Refugee, Asylum, and International Operations (RAIO):
 - Havana – 2 (1 TDY and 1 permanent)
 - Santo Domingo – 2 (1 permanent)
 - Port-au-Prince – 2 (-1)
 - DOS has authorized evacuation of non-essential personnel and their families. One person from Havana and two from Port-au-Prince with family will return to CONUS in the next 24-48 hours.
- San Juan and USVI offices now closed until post storm period. Florida offices preparing for the storm as per the Hurricane OPLAN.

U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)

- D7, Sectors and sub-units in the direct path of the IRMA are preparing to implement a COOP.
- Hurricane Condition I set for USCG Sector San Juan & USCG Air station Borinquen
- Port Condition ZULU set for all Puerto Rico(PR) and US Virgin Islands(VI) ports, Port Condition WHISKEY set for Key West
- USCG Air Station Savannah is Partially Mission Capable and USCG Air Facility Charleston non-mission capable due to Hurricane HARVEY support. USCG Station San Juan is non-mission capable.
- Anticipate D7 Command Center stand up in Miami; COOP action considered based upon path of the storm / D7 COOP advance team departing for St. Louis via USCG Air Station Miami aircraft
- Mandatory evacuation for resident along NE coast of PR; non-residents of Key West on 6 Sep and the residents will evacuate on 7 Sep.
- There have been no requests from interagency partners in PR for USCG support.
- Two Active Duty from Marine Safety Detachment St. Thomas and 14 Active Duty from Marine Safety Detachment St. Croix will shelter in place with local EOCs.
- Cutter Operations
 - Ship Sortie data: CGC YELLOWFIN and CGC GRIESSER en route Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao (ABCs) from San Juan 5 Sep. CGC DIXON is en route ABCs from Eastern Caribbean. CGC VALIANT will lead Surface Action Group (SAG) from Windward Passage (WWP) with CGC HERNANDEZ, CGC NAPIER, CGC HORSLEY and CGC TEZANOS who are underway from San Juan.
 - CGC DILIGENCE has Motor Tanker (M/T) FAT CROW under tow and will loiter south of the Yucatan and will proceed towards St. Petersburg when safe to do so.
 - CGC CONFIDENCE chopped back to Joint Interagency Task Force - South.

- Five cutters currently in USCG District Seven (D7) ports are unable to sortie due to depot level maintenance; all other cutters are capable of sortie, if necessary.
- Great Inagua, Bahamas-based MH-60 helicopters were relocated to Rafael Hernandez Airport, Aguadilla, PR.
- USCG Atlantic Area is filling a three-person SSJ Incident Management Assist Team (IMAT) request.
- USCG filled one Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer (EPLO) to St. Croix.

National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD)

- NCCIC:
 - **Office of Cybersecurity and Communications (CS&C) Pensacola, FL facility is working with Navy personnel in Corry Station to maintain situational awareness and develop courses of action should the area be impacted.**
 - **NCCIC and NSD leadership in Pensacola are also working with the NCR counterparts to develop courses of action should they need to move program operations out of Florida temporarily.**
 - **CS&C is examining internal processes to ensure they are able to answer the following questions: 1) How each division will ensure that each employee's location is accounted for before, during, and after the storm, including those that plan to work from alternate locations. 2) An updated list of personnel on the Surge Capacity Force (SCF), including the number of employees that have accepted deployments and the number still waiting for a deployment request. 3) Any relocation of operations to an alternative site.**
 - Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) deployed one staff member to Colt's Neck, NJ in support of a FEMA Mission Assignment
 - OEC will establish daily Emergency Performance Reporting (EPR) for the Government Emergency Telephone Service (GETS) to track call completion rates and priority access usage during anticipated telephone network congestion during Hurricane IRMA. The EPR will be provided to the NCC / NCCIC on a daily basis for awareness.
 - NCCIC/NCC distributed a Situational Alert to industry and regional partners and will publish a Warning Order to alert personnel of a potential response status.
 - On 3 Sep, ESF 2 deployed one person to Region II RRCC, Two ESF 2 personnel were activated in Region IV, and the NRCC ESF 2 remains staffed and supporting 24/7 operations. One additional person has been identified to deploy to Region IV later this week.
 - No primary facilities are being impacted at this time. Surge support will be utilized for ESF 2 communications sector response.
 - Essential functions are being performed at NCCIC Corry Station, NCCIC Glebe, NRCC, RRCC (Region II, III or IV)
- Infrastructure Protection (IP) / Protective Security Coordination Division
 - Region IV has developed a Personnel Accountability, Staffing, and Deployment Plan.

- IP RD, Chief, Protective Security (CPS), and ROM have updated and finalized Region IV SITREP for Region IV Hurricane Incident Response and Reporting.
- Conducting daily analysis to determine NPPD employees that may be affected by Hurricane IRMA.
- FL PSA will staff the FL State Emergency Operations Center.
- **Hurricane IRMA PSA Conference Call was held at 1400 ET 6 Sep to discuss PSA and Region IV office preparation and response.**
- **IP Region IV Director and Regional Sector Outreach Coordinator have developed a HSIN Connect page for IP Regional Incident Information Sharing expected to be launched 6 Sep.**
- **Region IV Staff teams have been selected and briefed on their duties and their work hours. Teams will be in operational status starting 7 Sep.**
- Office of Biometric Identity Management (OBIM)
 - Hurricane IRMA's path could impact either DHS Data Center, which would degrade departmental biometric matching capability during an outage. OBIM will continue to monitor the storm and transfer IDENT operations to the safest Data Center, if necessary. The loss of one Data Center would create a long term effect on some DHS and partner agency operations, with remaining matching capacity devoted to border entry and law enforcement activities during the day; catching up on national security, immigration, visa, and credentialing queries overnight. Biometric Support Center West in San Diego is scheduled to perform all manual verifications for the weekend and can extend that coverage if Biometric Center East (Rosslyn, VA) becomes unavailable. National Capital Region staff will be advised to prepare for situational telework if warranted.

Domestic Nuclear Detection Office

- DNDO has no personnel in the affected region.
- All Mobile Detection Deployment Units are available to support operations as required.
- DNDO is standing by to support any CBP Radiation Portal Monitor system replacement or repair needs, as required.